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## House of Representatives

(Legislative day of Friday, December 22, 1995)

□ 1026

### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. SCHIFF] at 10 o'clock and 26 minutes a.m.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

As we seek to carry on our responsibilities, remind us, gracious God, of the need for righteousness and respect for every person; as we pursue the path of justice, remind us of Your gift of mercy; as we aspire to the gifts of liberty, remind us of the heavenly vision. O Creator of all the Earth, O Judge of nations and people, we pray that we will use the abilities that You have given us in ways that reflect Your word. Teach us, O God, to be humble in our service and steadfast in our commitment to the good heritage of our Nation. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. MONTGOMERY] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MONTGOMERY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed

without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1295. An act to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to make certain revisions relating to the protection of famous marks.

H.R. 2203. An act to reauthorize the tied aid credit program of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and to allow the Export-Import Bank to conduct a demonstration project.

### ASSURING ALL FEDERAL EMPLOYEES WORK AND ARE PAID

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the Senate bill (S. 1508) to assure that all Federal employees work and are paid.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT].

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it is my purpose today to try to bring up the bill that has already been passed in the Senate, S. 1508, which as I understand it would put the Federal employees back to work, promising that they would be paid retroactively immediately and would get the Government up and running right away without any other conditions which might interrupt the passage of this legislation.

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. HOYER].

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. EMERSON] for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, we have now been in a crisis mode for some weeks, the longest

that Federal employees have been placed at risk in the history of our country. Families are disrupted and in fear. Fathers and mothers are wondering how they are going to pay January's mortgage payment, how they are going to keep their families together, how they are going to run their lives. They realize, as every American realizes, that there is a confrontation between the White House and the Congress, between Republicans and Democrats on how to resolve the reconciliation bill, the so-called budget bill.

What the majority leader of the Senate did, Senator DOLE, was to say to the Senate, "As we debate the differences between us, let us not short-change either the Federal workers or the American taxpayer. Let us have our workers come to work. Let us have them be perceived as essential for doing America's business," and then, because the Speaker and the majority leader have said we are going to do it, we will pay them when we come out of this crisis.

That is appropriate to do. It is important to give them that confidence. But it is also important for the American taxpayer that they work, and they want to work. I have had literally thousands of calls to my office of people who want just simply to do their job, to go to work, to contribute, not to have a backlog, and to give their families confidence in the new year.

Mr. Speaker, this request of the minority leader, S. 1508, is a request by our side to unanimously pass what the majority leader, the Republican leader of the U.S. Senate, has put before the Senate and the Senate has passed overwhelmingly. I would hope that my friend, the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. EMERSON], would not object, because it is my understanding that the alternative to this is placing S. 1508 on the unanimous-consent calendar for

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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